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Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know if all the 27 members have approached the Minister personally or a Member of this Council Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao approached the Minister ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I have no recollection of this matter as it happened so long ago.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ Was there any occasion to publish a list of corrections to the list of these 27 names ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe the hon. Member is as well aware of it as I am.”

Construction of a bridge over the Keesara river, Kistna district.

* 1307 *Q.*—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a proposal to construct a bridge over the Keesara river, Kistna district ; and

(*b*) if so, in what stage it is ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Preliminary estimates for Rs. 6·8 lakhs have been approved by the Chief Engineer. The question of the provision of funds is under consideration in connexion with the Budget for 1928–29.

Municipal Councils

Nomination of minority communities to Mangalore Municipal Council.

* 1308 *Q.*—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a member belonging to a community which is already represented by two elected members in the Municipal Council, Mangalore, has been recently nominated to the Municipal Council ;

(*b*) whether the person nominated had already served on the Municipal Council as a nominated member for two terms ;

(*c*) whether there is a rule to the effect that no person should be nominated for more than one term except for special reasons and that in no case should a person be nominated for more than two terms ; and

(*d*) whether there are minority communities such as the Billavas who have no representation at all on the Municipal Council ?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member apparently refers to the appointment of M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib B. Mahabala Hegde. If so, there is only one other member of his community on the council.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) There is no rule. Instructions have been issued to Collectors that when it is proposed to re-appoint persons who have already served on a council for six years, they should state the special circumstances which render continuance in office desirable.

(*d*) According to the latest list Billavas are not at present represented on the council.

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know why Mr. Mahabala Hegde was appointed having regard to the fact that he is already President of the District Board and the Public Prosecutor? When he has so many other duties which he has to carry on—very burdensome duties—why was he re-nominated for a third time?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" For the simple reason that Mr. Hegde's presence will be useful."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Is he able to attend the meetings regularly as a rule? I am not aware whether he is able to attend the meetings regularly generally because he is burdened with other responsible duties."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is making a speech."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Is it not a fact that his services could be availed of only by his presence and not by his frequent absence from meetings?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is really calling for an opinion."

Electric lights for Trichinopoly town.

* 1309 Q.—K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Trichinopoly municipality has made arrangements to replace kerosene lights in the town by electric lights; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the negative, the reasons therefor?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The question is under the consideration of the Municipal Council.

Village Panchayats

Action taken on resolutions passed at Panchayat Conferences.

* 1310 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received copies of resolutions passed at the various Panchayat Conferences;

(*b*) if so, whether he will be pleased to place on the table of the House the action that has been or is proposed to be taken in regard to each point raised in the resolutions;

(*c*) whether a Bill to amend the Madras Panchayat Act, 1920, was published in 1924;

(*d*) if the answer to (*c*) is in the affirmative, why the Bill was dropped; and

(*e*) whether it is the intention of the Government to invest the village panchayats with the work of the present forest panchayats and also the duties in regard to irrigation under tanks, etc.?

A.—(*a*) The Government received copies of the resolutions passed at the Conferences held at Nattarampalli, Anantapur, Peralam and Tiruttangal in the years 1924 and 1925.